

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 1960 – SB 2586

April 20, 2016

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Enacts the Juvenile Justice Realignment Act. Creates a 14 member task force to study the feasibility and make recommendations in preparation for the creation of a Department of Juvenile Justice. Requires the task force to be administratively attached to the Comptroller's Office and allows for members of the task force to be reimbursed for necessary traveling expenses while engaged in work for the task force. Requires the task force to report to the Speaker of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Governor by January 15, 2017. Upon providing the report and recommendations, the task force will cease to exist.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase State Expenditures - \$2,800/Each One-Day Meeting

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS (016292, 016321): Amendment 016292 deletes and rewrites the bill such that the only substantive changes are: (1) the taskforce is to study new approaches to the administration of juvenile justice, which may include the creation of a Department of Juvenile Justice, (2) adds the Executive Director of the Commission on Children and Youth, or the director's designee, and the President of the Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, or the president's designee, to the current list of members who shall serve as ex officio members to the task force; and (3) requires the task force to provide a recommendation and report for new approaches to the administration of juvenile justice to the Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges for their review and comment. The Council is to forward the report to the Speaker of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Governor by January 15, 2017 with any comments. Upon providing the report and recommendations, the task force will cease to exist.

Amendment 016321 adds language to the bill as amended by amendment 016292 requiring the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Speaker of the Senate to appoint one member each who is recognized as a national expert in the field of juvenile justice or children's issues. Requires the state to be responsible for all reasonable costs incurred including travel expenses for the additional appointed members.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:


Increase State Expenditures - Exceeds \$11,800/FY16-17

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Based on information provided by the Department of Finance and Administration, the Department of Children's Services, and the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, any costs associated with participating in the task force can be accommodated within existing resources without an increased appropriation or reduced reversion.
- All fourteen members of the task force will receive reimbursement for travel expenses. Four legislative members of the task force will also receive per diem.
- An increase in state expenditures of \$2,770 [(14 members x \$139.59 travel) + (4 members x \$204 per diem)] for each one day meeting.
- According to the Administrative Office of the Courts, participating in the task force will not affect the court system; any fiscal impact will be not significant.
- The three nationally recognized expert members will be appointed from across the United States.
- It is estimated that each expert appointee will incur a minimum of \$3,000 in travel expenses, including airfare, lodging, meals and incidentals, for each meeting.
- Assuming at least one meeting will be held, the total increase in state expenditures is estimated to exceed \$11,770 [\$2,770 + (3 expert appointees x \$3,000)].

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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